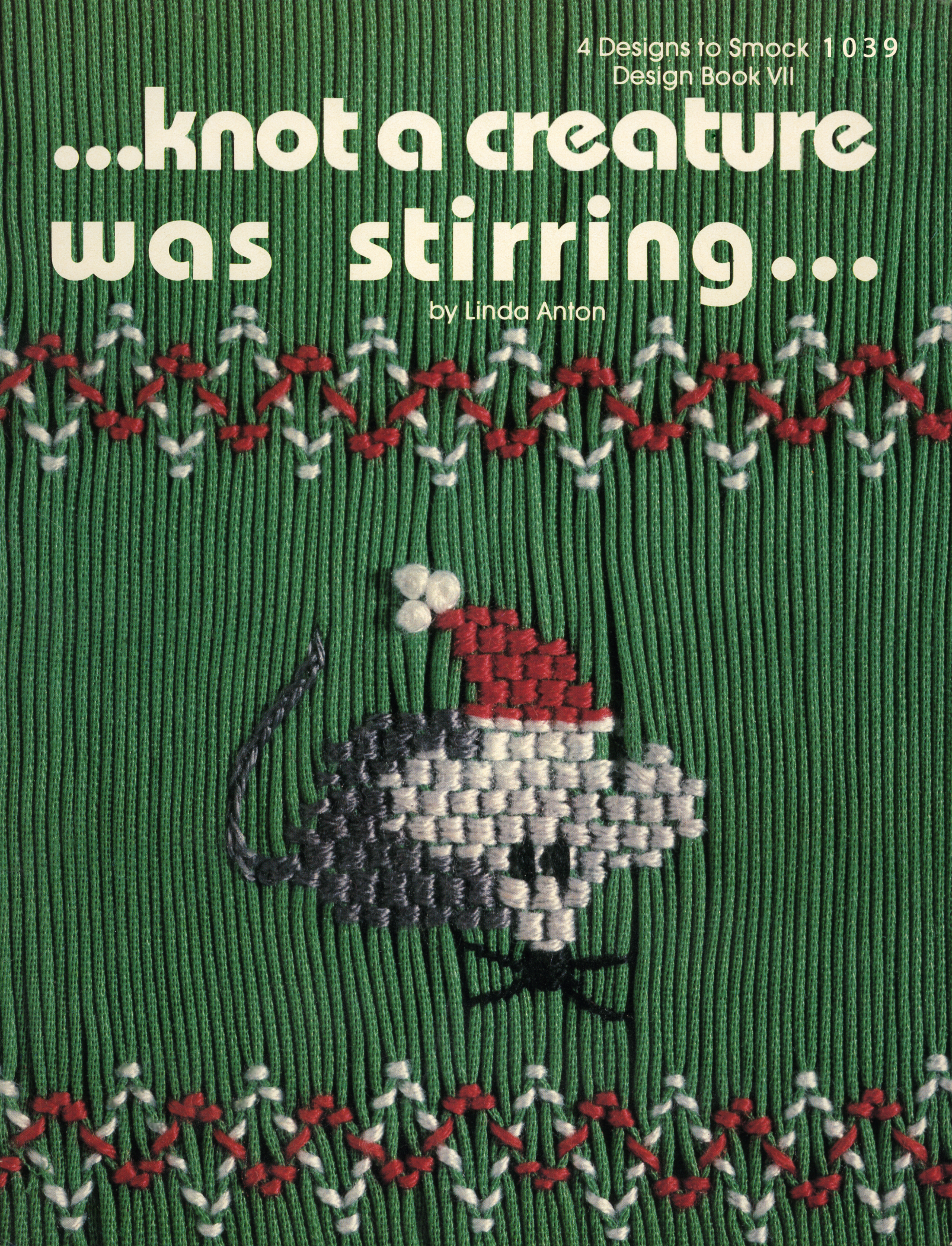
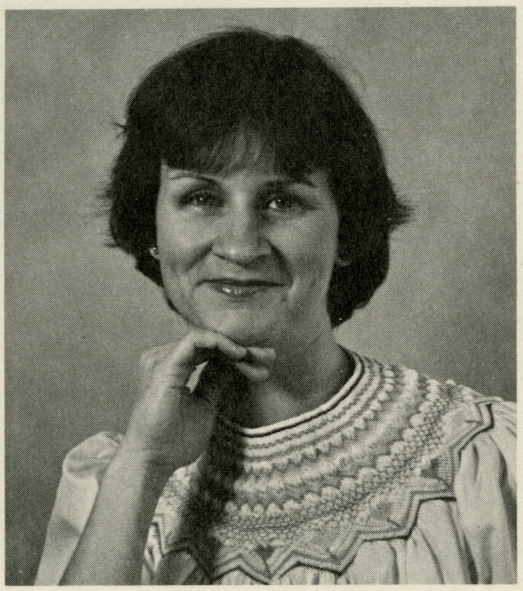
4 Designs to Smock 1039
Design Book VII

...knot a creature was stirring...

by Linda Anton





INTRODUCTION

Wisconsin has given us Linda Anton. Her creative abilities seem boundless. The smocked designs she created for this book are excellent examples of the very warm and personable style of her designs.

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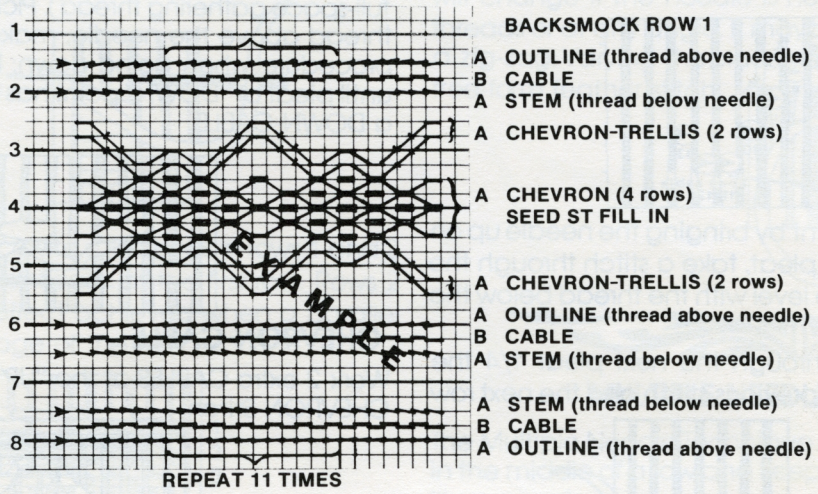
READING THE DESIGN GRAPH

Each graph illustrates the stitches used, their precise placement, and the color arrangement to make a particular smocking design.



GRAPH LINES AND SYMBOLS

HEAVY HORIZONTAL LINES represent the gathering threads.
LIGHT HORIZONTAL LINES indicate the quarter-space intervals between the gathering threads.
Each VERTICAL LINE represents one pleat.
Each SQUARE, marked through with a line, represents a stitch.
SLASH MARKS drawn across the pleat lines indicate the intervals at which the needle enters each pleat for the trellis stitch.
ARROWS (➤) indicate the rows to be worked first.

STITCHES

Each stitch is drawn across a square on the gathering thread or interval it is to be smocked. The written description of the stitches needed to smock each row is printed to the right of each graph.

BACKSMOCKING

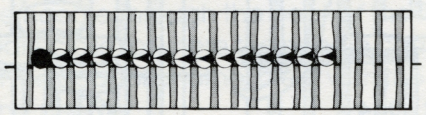
Smock the back of your project using a floss that matches your fabric.
The graph will indicate which rows should be backsmocked. Backsmocking is necessary. It prevents the unsmocked areas from "puffing out" when the gathering threads are removed.

BASIC STITCH INSTRUCTIONS

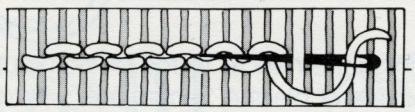
Work with three strands of floss unless otherwise indicated. Always hold the needle parallel to the gathering threads. Pick up 1/3 of each pleat. Knot the thread, come up on the left of the third pleat and go through the fourth pleat. ⊖ symbolizes the point where the needle should go through the pleat. For most stitches, the needle goes through only one pleat at a time. An (*) will indicate any stitch which deviates from this rule. Example - * SATIN STITCH.

CABLE

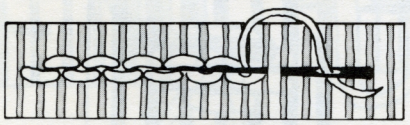
A. Needle enters each pleat at the same level, whether making the "DOWN-CABLE" or "UP-CABLE". Pick up one pleat at a time alternating the thread above the needle ("UP-CABLE"), then below ("DOWN-CABLE").



B. DOWN-CABLE - Thread is below the needle.

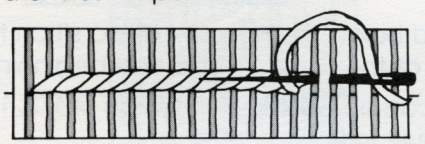


C. UP-CABLE - Thread is above the needle.



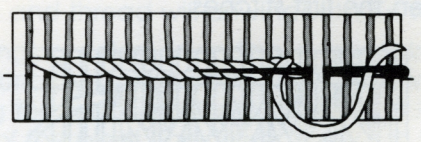
OUTLINE

The outline is worked across the pleats much the same way as the CABLE but the thread is always above the needle. Consistent tension, depth, and the point where you pick up each pleat are most important.



STEM

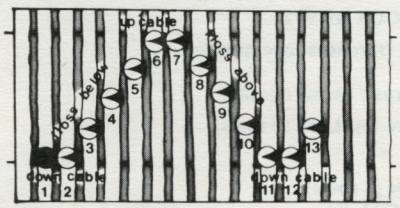
The STEM is worked the same as the OUTLINE STITCH but the thread is always below the needle.



TRELLIS

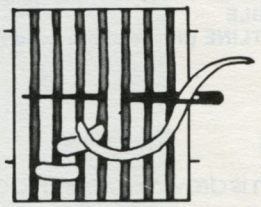
A. Diagram A illustrates the points where the needle is inserted through the pleat. Note the spacing between the gathering threads. This spacing may be varied.

A



B. 1. Start with a bottom point by bringing the needle up on the left side of the first pleat, take a stitch through the next pleat at the same level with the thread below the needle.

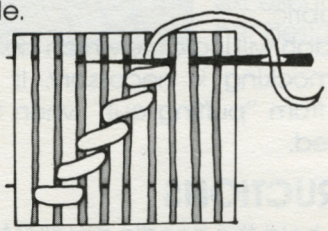
2. Take the next stitch through the next pleat 1/4 the distance between the previous stitch and the next row of gathering threads.



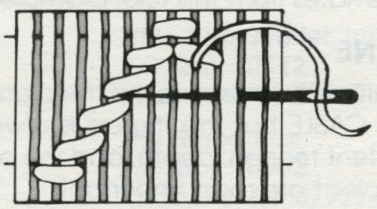
C. Then 1/2 the distance, then 3/4 the distance, etc.

Make sure the thread is below the needle. The process will continue until the TRELLIS is the desired height.

D. Make the top point by taking a stitch through the next pleat at the same level as the last stitch, holding the thread above the needle.



E. Work down the side of the TRELLIS with the thread above the needle. Each stitch is worked at 1/4 intervals until the bottom point is reached.

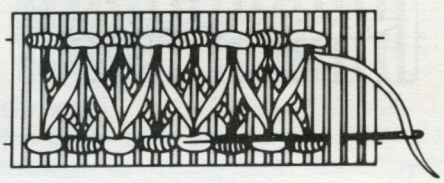


F. With thread below the needle, take a stitch through the next pleat at the same level as the beginning stitch.

This stitch can be worked at intervals of 1/2, 1/3, 1/5, 1/6, etc. and built to various heights

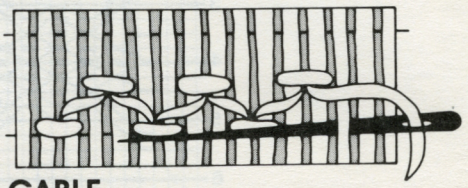
CROSSOVER ROWS

Work a complete row of any zig-zag stitch. Work a second zig-zag stitch row over the first row, using the unsmocked pleats between the first stitches.



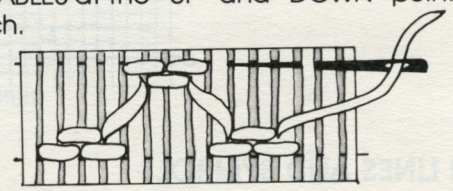
CHEVRON

First work a DOWN-CABLE on the gathering thread, then keeping thread below the needle, move to the "UP" point (either 1/2 space between gathering threads or on the next full-space gathering thread). Pick up the next pleat. Then with thread above the needle, make an UP-CABLE. Reverse this procedure when going down; keep thread above needle until pleat at "DOWN" point has been picked up. Then make a DOWN-CABLE.



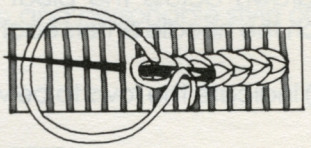
CHEVRON-CABLE

Work 2 extra CABLES at the "UP" and "DOWN" points of the CHEVRON Stitch.



CHAIN

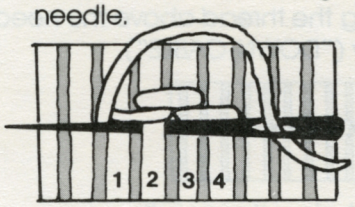
Bring the needle up through a valley, Insert the needle through the first pleat, keeping the thread under the needle to form a large loop. Draw the thread so that a small loop is formed. Insert the needle through the loop and next pleat, keeping the thread under the needle. Keep the loops the same size with consistent tension. Always work from right to left.

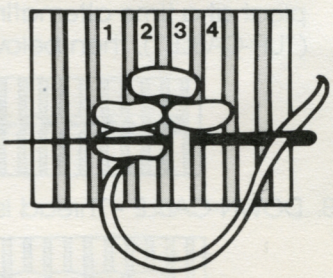


DOUBLE FLOWERETTE

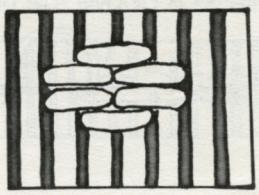
A. Work a "DOWN CABLE", then an "UP CABLE". Push needle through pleats 4, 3, 2, and 1.

B. Insert the needle through pleat 2 with the thread above the needle. Then through pleat 3 with thread below the needle.



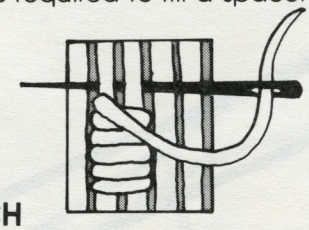


C. End by pushing the needle to the back through the valley on the right side of pleat 4. Secure floss with a back stitch.



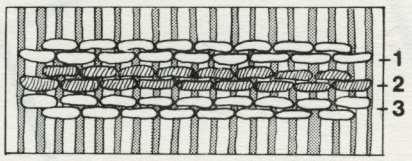
SATIN STITCH

Begin by coming up through the valley on the left side of pleat 1. Insert the needle through 2 pleats at once. Work as many numbers of stitches required to fill a space. Three or four pleats may be used.



STACKED CABLE STITCH

Parallel rows of CABLES will create squares as in rows 1 and 2 of diagram, when done identically as the first row. Rows 2 and 3 show the pyramid effect achieved when a parallel row is done as a mirror image of the first.

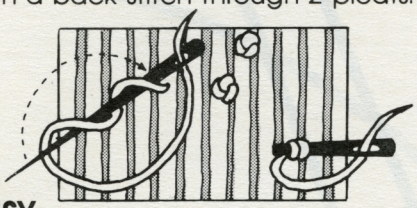


Suggestion: On stacked cable design graphs, use a transparent felt-tip marker to highlight every other row. This will help you in counting the rows and placing the stitches.

1. Strands of floss should be stripped (separated) and rejoined. They should also be straightened periodically while smocking. Doing this will cause the stitches to appear fuller.
2. When stacking cables, smock a little deeper into pleats (to at least 1/2 the depth). Keep depth consistent. On first and last cables (of a row or a color), always go to the valley of the pleat. This gives the work a much neater look.

FRENCH KNOT

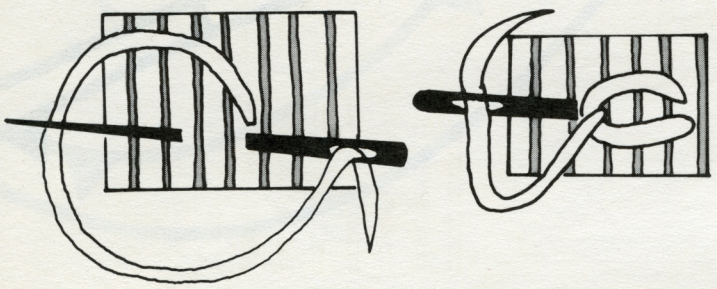
Bring the needle up through the peak of a pleat. Wind the thread over the needle 2 or 3 times or more, depending upon the size of the knot needed. Insert the needle close to where it came out. Draw the needle to the wrong side. Secure with a back stitch through 2 pleats.



LAZY DAISY

A. Bring the needle through the peak of the first pleat. Insert the needle close to where the needle came up, then out through the peak of another pleat with the thread looped under the needle.

B. Push the needle to the back of the fabric through the side of the pleat.



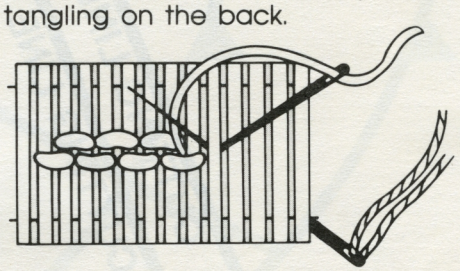
FEATHER STITCH

Work the FEATHER STITCH from right to left through 2 pleats at a time, an old pleat and a new one. The shape of the stitches will change if the needle is held parallel to the gathering threads or at any angle. It may be worked in a straight line or a zig-zag. Varying the placement of the stitches creates a free-form feather stitch.

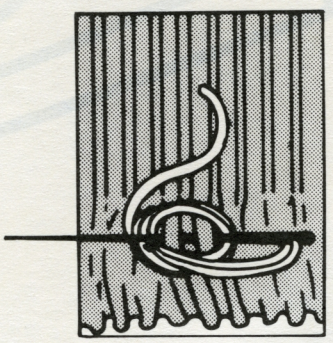
MULTIPLE NEEDLE TECHNIQUE

The Multiple Needle Technique allows you to change colors in the middle of a row and keep the rows even with no gaps in your work.

Thread a needle with each color of thread to be used. Begin smocking with first color. When directions indicate end of a first color, put needle in fabric as if to take thread to wrong side. Before pulling first needle through to back, bring second needle with second color required through fabric and pull thread to front. This method will prevent the two threads from tangling on the back.

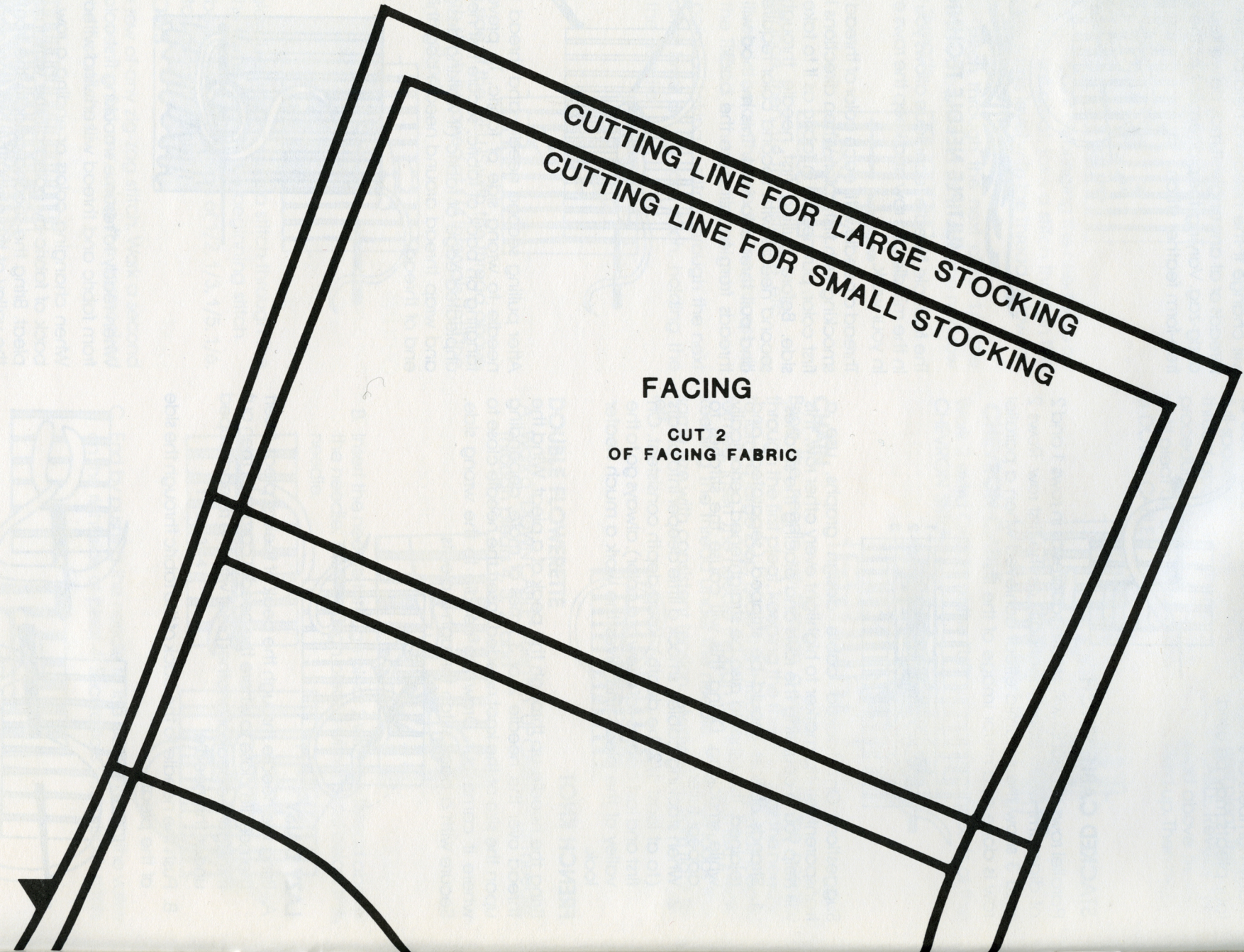


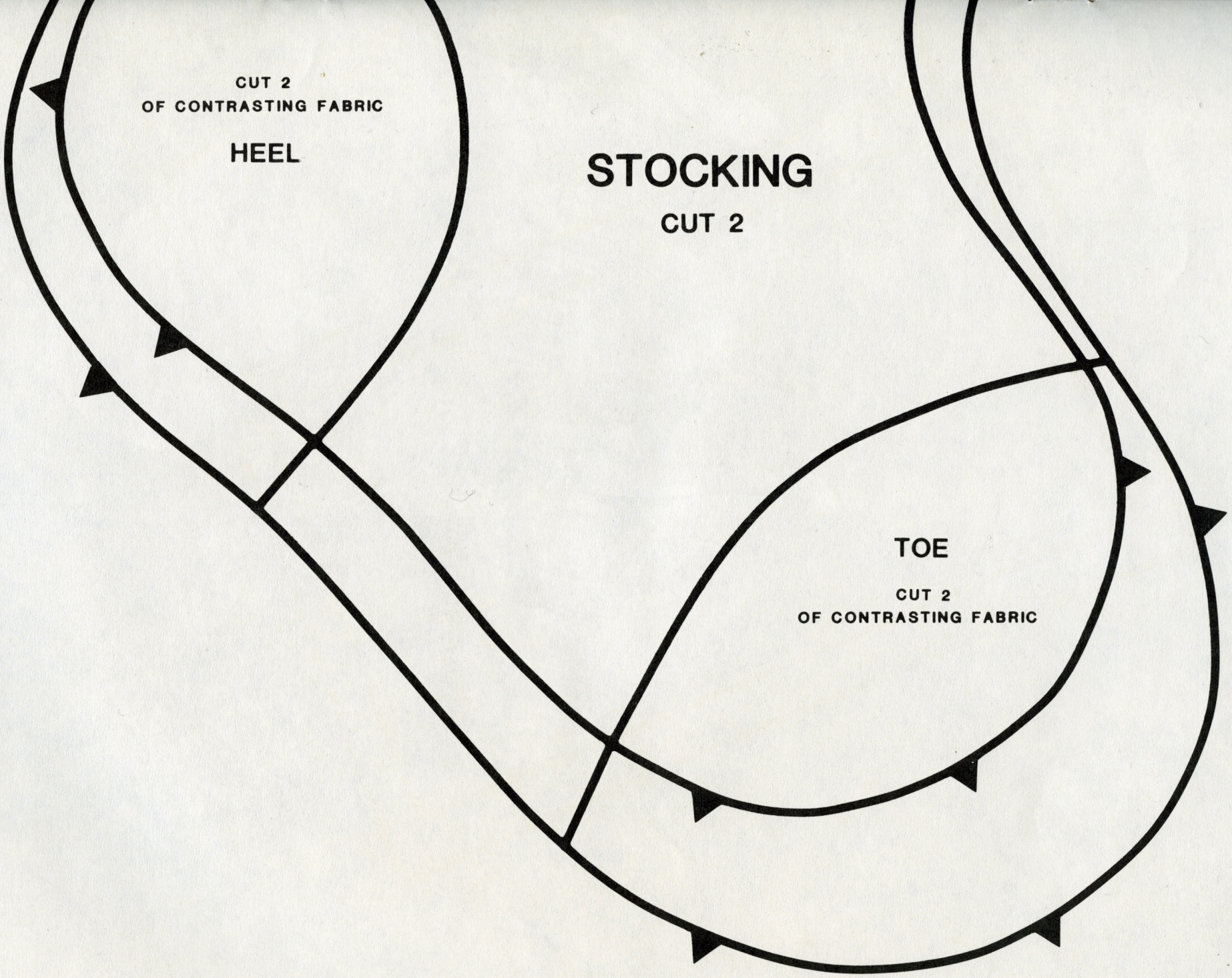
After pulling second needle and thread to front, take first needle to wrong side of fabric. To prevent threads from tangling on back of fabric, secure first needle in the lower unpleated edge of fabric (if working design up the fabric) and wrap thread around needle beginning with doubled end of thread.



When ready to resume smocking first color, remove needle from fabric and thread will unwind without tangling.

When changing colors or ending a row, take first color to back of fabric by going all the way into the valley of the pleat. Bring the second color to the front of fabric through the valley of the pleat. This prevents gaps in the smocking.


CUTTING LINE FOR LARGE STOCKING
CUTTING LINE FOR SMALL STOCKING
FACING
CUT 2
OF FACING FABRIC


CUT 2
OF CONTRASTING FABRIC
HEEL
STOCKING
CUT 2
TOE
CUT 2
OF CONTRASTING FABRIC

STOCKING ASSEMBLY

SUPPLIES

3/8 yd. (.35m) fabric for stocking (quilted cotton, corduroy, or other medium heavyweight fabric)
1/4 yd. (.25m) fabric (or available scraps) for applique pieces (toe, heel and facing)
1/4 yd. (.25m) of 45" (115cm) fabric for cuff (both sizes stocking)
1/2 yd. (.50m) of 1/2" (13mm) ribbon
Floss - see corresponding graph for colors required.

PREPARATION

1. Straighten fabric by either tearing or cutting.
2. Transfer pattern outlines to tissue paper. Cut each piece from appropriate fabric.

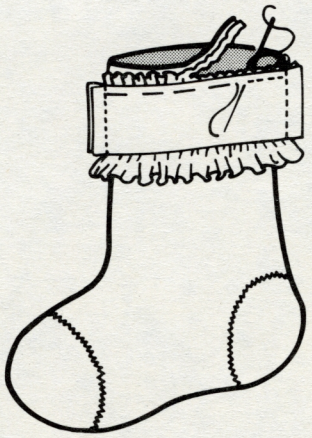
CUFF

1. Pleat 16 rows across the 45" (115cm) fabric for cuff using a pleating machine or Little Miss Muffet Transfer Dots.
2. Smock the cuff using one of the four graphed designs.
3. Trim seam allowance above row 1 and below row 16 to 5/8" (1.5cm). Remove gathering threads.
4. Matching the smocked design, pin ends of cuff RIGHT sides together and stitch to form a tube.
5. Fold the cuff WRONG sides together, matching raw edges. Baste together along edge.

STOCKING

1. Using a narrow zig-zag stitch, machine applique the toe and heel pieces to stocking, matching notches.
2. RIGHT sides together, stitch around the stocking, leaving top open. Trim seam allowance to 1/4" (6mm), clip curves, and turn right side out.
3. Slip cuff over stocking, RIGHT side up, matching cuff and back stocking seams and having raw edges even. Baste through all thicknesses.

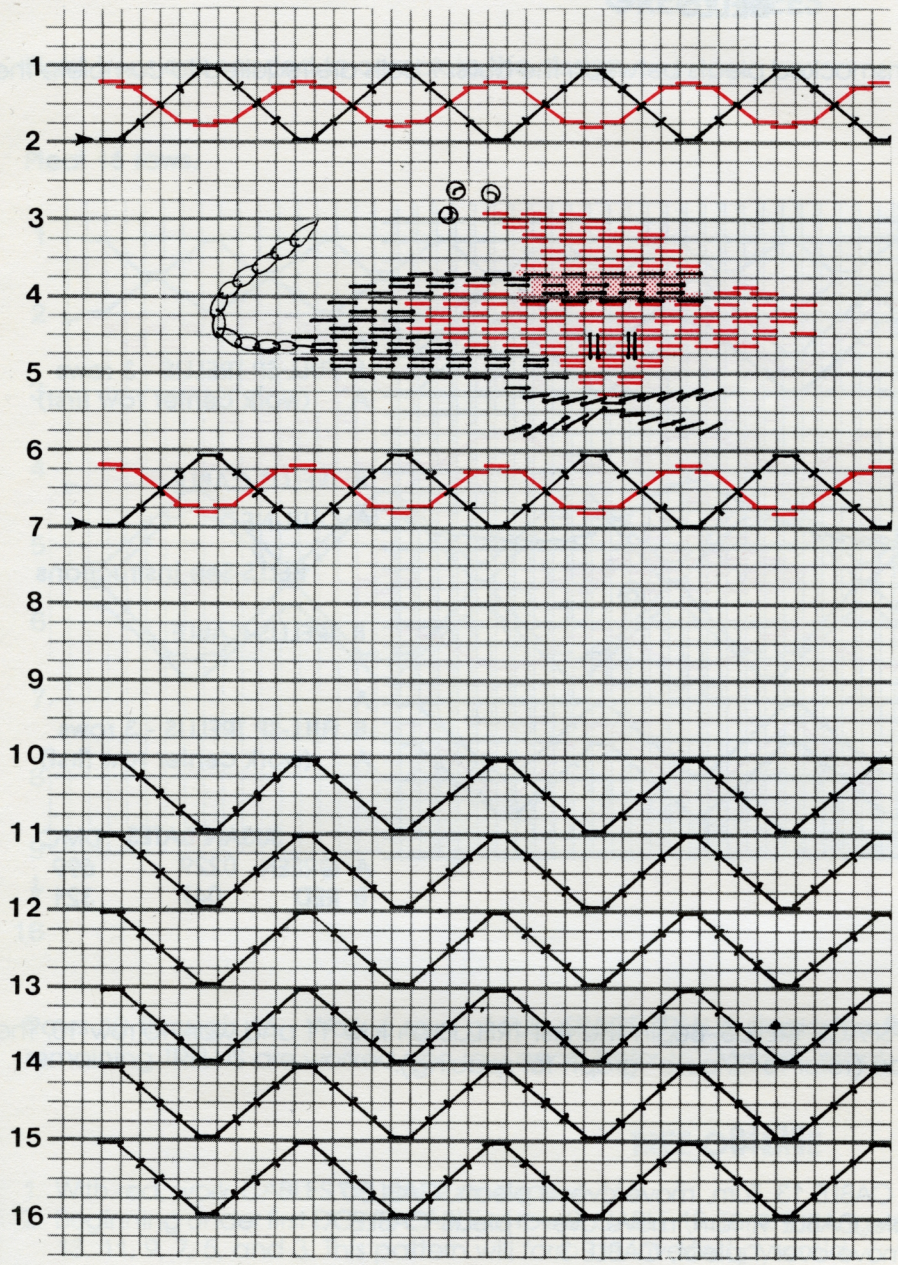
4. RIGHT sides together, stitch ends of facing together to form a tube. Press seams open.
5. RIGHT sides together, matching seams and raw edges, pin facing to top of cuff. Using basting stitches as a guide, stitch around the top from inside the stocking.



6. Trim seam allowances to 1/4" (6mm). Press facing to inside.
7. Turn stocking inside out. Turn under 5/8" (1.5cm) on raw edge of facing and whipstitch to inside of stocking. Turn stocking right side out. Press entire stocking.
8. Stitch bow in place on back seam.

MOUSE

Four mice are needed to complete the design. Each mouse is 32 pleats wide; there are 12 unsmocked pleats between each mouse. Begin the first mouse on the 7th pleat from the beginning of the border.



B CHEVRON-CABLE CROSSOVER*

A FULL-SP TRELLIS

MOUSE
- **HAT-A&B**
- **FACE-C**
- **BODY-D**
- **NOSE/WHISKERS-E**

B CHEVRON-CABLE CROSSOVER*

A FULL-SP TRELLIS

FULL-SP TRELLIS-6 rows (work in color of fabric)

	SUSAN BATES	DMC
A WHITE	**0402**	**Neige**
B RED	**047**	**327**
C LT. GRAY	**0397**	**762**
D DK. GRAY	**0400**	**317**
E BLACK	**0403**	**310**

*** Note: Chevron of Chevron-Cable crosses over 1 pleat.**

Thread four needles, one of each color: lt. gray, dk. gray, white, and red.

1. Beginning on row 5, CABLE 12 with **dk. gray.** Following instructions for multiple needle technique, change to **lt. gray**, CABLE 5. Turn, CABLE 7.
2. Change to **dk. gray**, CABLE 13. Turn, CABLE 8.
3. Change to **lt. gray**, CABLE 17. Turn, CABLE 21.
4. Change to **dk. gray**, CABLE 5. Turn, CABLE 4.
5. Change to **lt. gray**, CABLE 21. Turn, CABLE 3.
6. Change to **white**, skip an UPPER CABLE, CABLE 9. Change to **dk. gray**, CABLE 1. Change to **lt. gray**, CABLE 3. Change to **dk. gray**, CABLE 5. Turn, CABLE 7. Change to **white**, CABLE 9. Change to **red**, CABLE 9. Turn, CABLE 8. Turn, CABLE 8. Turn, CABLE 6. Below 5 **lt. gray** CABLES worked on row 5, CABLE 3 with **lt. gray.**

Hat-Work 3 FRENCH KNOT pompoms in white.

Tail-CHAIN STITCH in dk. gray.

Nose-SATIN STITCH in black.

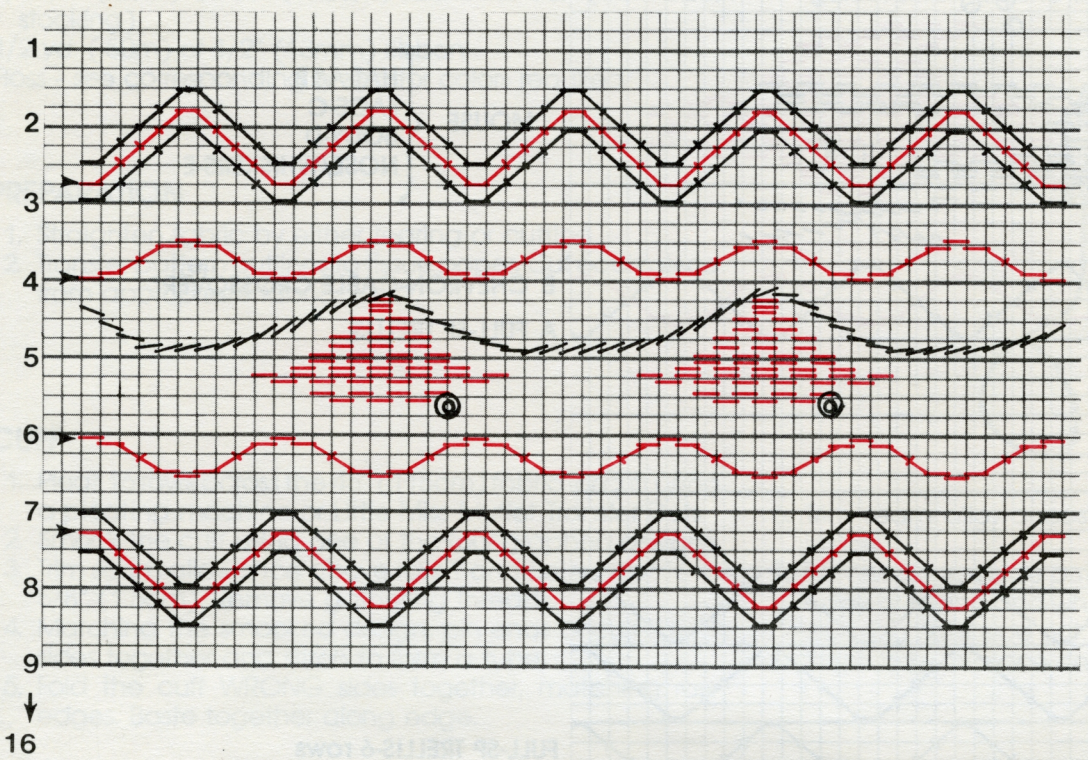
Whiskers-OUTLINE and STEM in black.

Eyes-STRAIGHT STITCH in black.

BELLS

Each bell requires 14 pleats. There are 6 unsmocked pleats between the bells. 9 bells are required to complete the design.

Pleat 16 rows.



A
B FULL-SP TRELLIS - 3 rows
A (work center row first)

B TRELLIS-CABLE

A OUTLINE *

BELLS-See instructions

B TRELLIS-CABLE

A
B FULL-SP TRELLIS - 3 rows
A (work center row first)

	SUSAN BATES	DMC
A GREEN	0229	699
B RED	047	321

Rows 10 through 16 - Work 6 rows of FULL-SPACE TRELLIS. Begin the first TRELLIS on row 11 and work to row 10. The remaining TRELLIS are worked one row apart (refer to "Mouse" graph for spacing).

BELLS

1. With red, begin 1/4 space below row 5, CABLE 13. Turn, move over 3 pleats, CABLE 7.
2. Above the 13 CABLES, move over 2 pleats, CABLE 9. Turn, move over 1 pleat, CABLE 7.
3. Turn, move over 1 pleat, CABLE 5. Turn, move over 1 pleat, CABLE 3.
4. Work 2 SATIN STITCHES at top of bell.

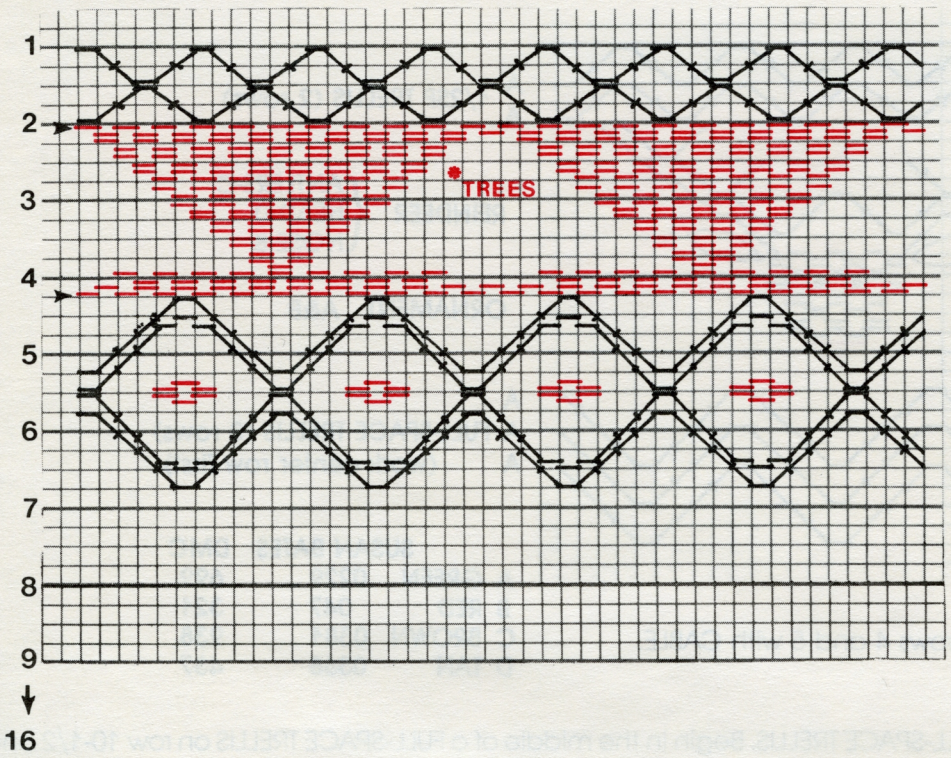
Clapper-With green, work FRENCH KNOT.

* After completing bells, work OUTLINE stitch in green between rows 4 and 5.

GREEN TREES

Eight trees are needed to complete the design.

Pleat 16 rows.



B 1/2 SP TRELLIS (2 rows)
B
A CABLE

TREES-See instructions

A CABLE
B FULL-SP TRELLIS
B TRELLIS-CABLE

A DBL. FLOWERETTE FILL-IN

B TRELLIS-CABLE
B FULL-SP TRELLIS

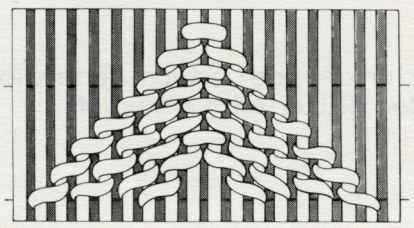
	SUSAN BATES	DMC
A RED	047	321
B WHITE	0402	Neige

Rows 10 through 16 - Work 6 rows of FULL-SPACE TRELLIS. Begin the first TRELLIS on row 11 and work to row 10. The remaining TRELLIS are worked one row apart (refer to "Mouse" graph for spacing).

TREE OUTLINE

1. With red, work CABLES on row 2 and row 4-1/4.
2. Beginning under first DOWN CABLE of row 2, CABLE 19. Turn. Turning work at the end of the next 7 rows, CABLE 17, 15, 13, 11, 9, 7, 5, and 3. This pattern will form an inverted pyramid.
3. Beginning above the third CABLE of row 4-1/4, CABLE 17 (begin with an upper cable). Tie off thread. Leave the next 4 pleats unsmocked. Bring thread up on left side of 5th pleat, begin with an upper cable, CABLE 17. Continue this pattern (4 unsmocked pleats, 17 CABLES) across the width of fabric. The unsmocked pleats form the tree trunks.

* **BACKSMOCKING**-Backsmock trees with TRELLIS as shown.



"GREEN TREES"

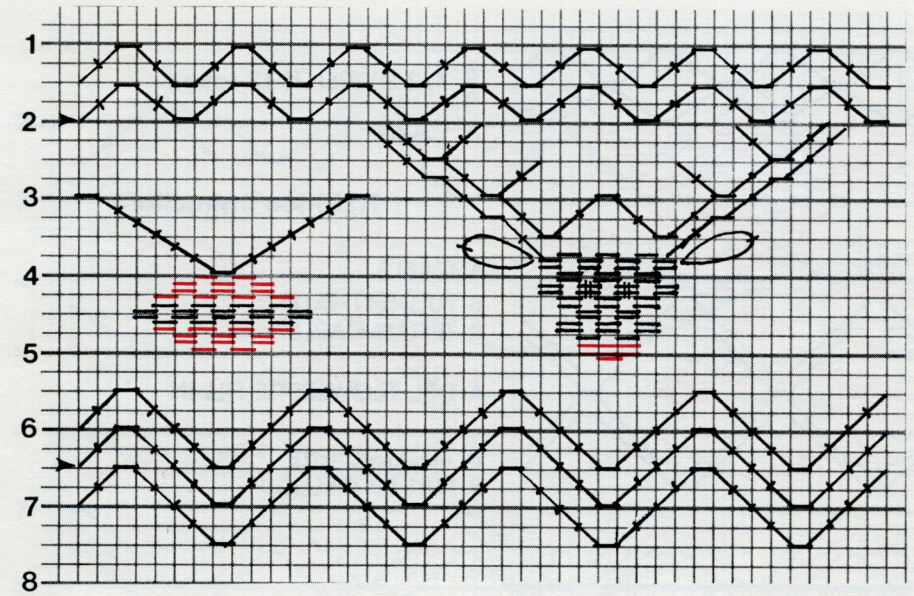
The smocking is red,
The trees are green.
Don't look at the stitches,
Look in between.

by-L.M. Muffet

REINDEER

The reindeer requires 26 pleats; the ornament requires 16 pleats. The ornaments end and the reindeer begin on the same pleat.

Pleat 16 rows.



BACKSMOCKING-Backsmock rows 4 and 5 with CABLE.

A
A **1/2SP TRELLIS (2 rows)**

REINDEER { **ANTLERS-C** / **HEAD-D** / **NOSE-B**

ORNAMENT A&B

A
A **FULL-SPACE TRELLIS (3 rows)**
A **(work center row first)**

		SUSAN BATES	DMC
A	GREEN	0229	699
B	RED	047	321
C	BROWN	0381	938
D	TAN	0368	437

Rows 10 through 16 - Work 6 rows of FULL-SPACE TRELLIS. Begin in the middle of a FULL-SPACE TRELLIS on row 10-1/2 and work to row 11. Continue the TRELLIS between rows 10 and 11. The remaining TRELLIS are worked one row apart (refer to "Mouse" graph for spacing).

ORNAMENT

1. Beginning a thread's width above row 4-1/2, CABLE 9 with green. Turn, CABLE 9.
2. With red, CABLE 7 above green rows. Turn, CABLE 5. Repeat 7 and 5 CABLES below the green rows.

Hanger-With green, work TRELLIS between rows 3 and 4.

REINDEER

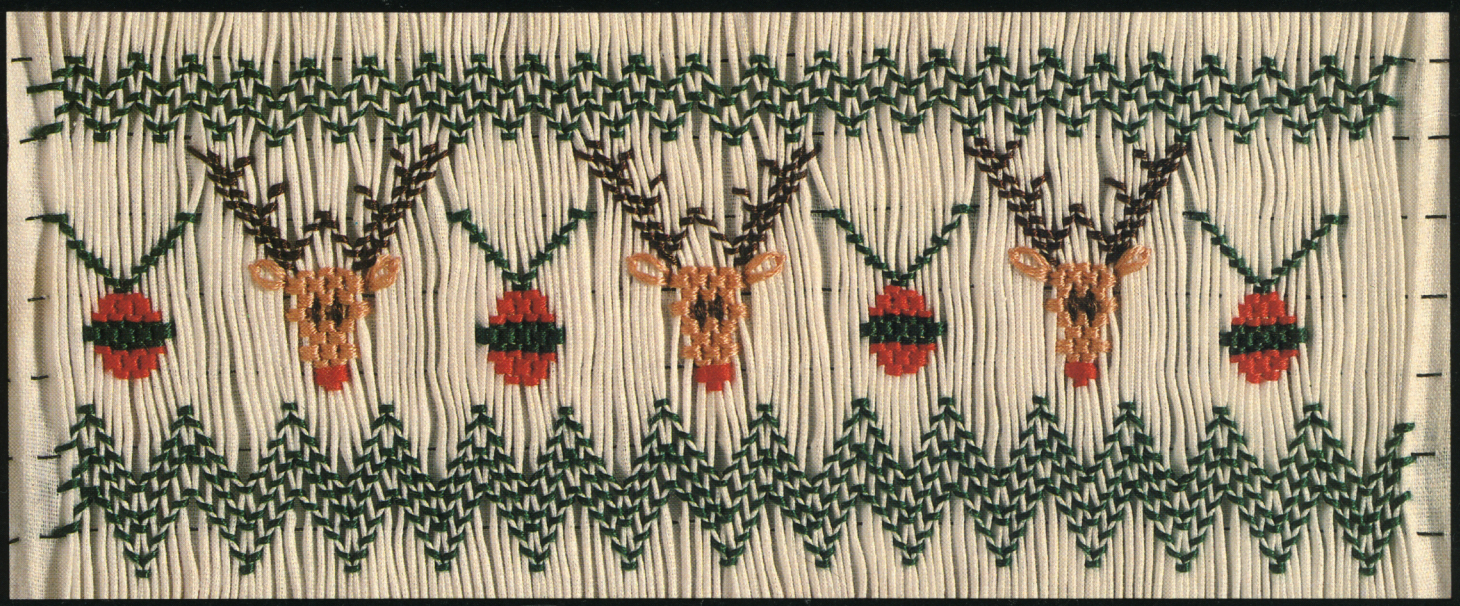
1. With tan, begin 1/4 space above row 4, CABLE 7. Turning at end of each row, work 3 rows of 7 CABLES.
2. Turn, CABLE 5. Turn, CABLE 5. Turn, CABLE 5.

Nose-With red, work nose in SATIN STITCH over 4 pleats 2 times and over 2 pleats 1 time.

Ears-With tan, work LAZY DAISIES.

Eyes-With brown, work STRAIGHT STITCH.

Antlers-With brown, work TRELLIS STAIRSTEP from row 2 to top of head on one side and from head to row 2 on the other side. Fill in with connected 1/2 SPACE TRELLIS. Work entire connected TRELLIS without tying off.



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